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CLAIMS:

1.   A method of generating an authorization status list, comprising generating a
run-length encoded representation of an authorization status of a number of devices and
storing the representation in the authorization status list.

5   2.   The method of claim 1, comprising generating the representation by
indicating, for each of a number of ranges of devices, the devices in a particular range having
a same authorization status, the number of devices in each of said ranges.

3.   The method of claim 2, comprising indicating in the authorization status list
10   for each of said ranges the authorization status shared by the devices in each of said ranges.

4.   The method of claim 2 or 3, comprising indicating in the authorization status
list a boundary of said ranges.

15   5.   The method of claim 4, comprising indicating as boundary a device identifier
lowest and/or highest in the ranges.

6.   The method of any previous claim, comprising generating the representation
by indicating, for a first range of devices, the devices in the first range having a same first
20   authorization status, the number of devices in the first range, and, for a second range of
devices, the devices in the second range having a same second authorization status, the
number of devices in the second range.

7.   The method of claim 6, the second range being successive to the first range
25   and the first authorization status differing from the second authorization status.

8.   The method of claim 6, comprising omitting a further range if the further
range is of a predetermined length.

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9.   The method of claim 8, in which the predetermined length equals one.

10.   The method of claim 8, comprising indicating in the authorization status list the predetermined length.

11.   The method of claim 2, comprising indicating in the authorization status list a number of bits used to indicate the number of devices in each of said ranges.

12.   The method of any previous claim, comprising indicating in the authorization status list a version number and/or a creation date.

13.   The method of any previous claim, comprising transmitting the authorization status list to a device for enabling the device to verify the authorization status of itself or of a further device.

14.   The method of any previous claim, comprising recording the authorization status list on a storage medium.

15.   The method of claim 14, comprising recording the authorization status list in a fixed data area of a rewritable storage medium.

16.   The method of claim 14, comprising recording the authorization status list in a rewritable area of a rewritable storage medium and recording a cryptographic summary of the authorization status list in a fixed data area of said rewritable storage medium.

17.   A device arranged for executing the method of claim 1.

18.   A computer program for causing a processor to execute the method of claim 1.

19.   A source device (410) arranged for authorizing an operation by a sink device (400), the source device comprising authorization status checking means (415) for verifying the authorization status of the sink device using an authorization status list as produced by the method of claim 1.

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20.   A record carrier on which there is recorded an authorization status list as produced by the method of claim 1.

21.   The record carrier of claim 20, comprising a fixed data area and a rewritable data area, in which the authorization status list is recorded in the fixed data area.

22.   The record carrier of claim 20, comprising a fixed data area and a rewritable data area, in which the authorization status list is recorded in the rewritable area and a cryptographic summary of the authorization status list is recorded in the fixed data area.

23.   A signal embodying an authorization status list as produced by the method of claim 1.